

The INTERNATIONAL TEAMSTER

APRIL - 1947



Official Magazine

THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS • CHAUFFEURS • WAREHOUSEMEN & HELPERS OF AMERICA

Big Business—Big Unions

MANY congressmen who have been advocating legislation to restrict labor say they are anxious only to break the "labor monopoly." They assert that monopoly is bad for the country.

If that is what they really mean, let them enact legislation to restrict monopoly—all monopoly—not merely "labor monopoly."

By classifying a large labor union as a monopoly, these congressmen seek to arouse the inherent prejudice of Americans against monopoly.

This is historically a land of free competition and free enterprise. Not the kind of free enterprise the National Association of Manufacturers talks about. To that organization, free enterprise means the right to stifle competition and to enforce its own economic totalitarianism on the American people.

When the United States was a land of little business, it was also a land of little unions.

When business grew big and powerful, labor had to unite to become strong enough to bargain with it.

Big business refused to talk to little unions. By its arbitrary attitude, it forced its employees to join together for their own protection.

How, for instance, could several little independent unions hope to bargain with the American Trucking Association?

When the truck operators united to bring their full resources against their employees, it was natural and necessary for their drivers to affiliate with the International Brotherhood of Teamsters so that labor could speak with the same coherent voice as management.

Now proposals have been made in Congress to break down such unions as the Teamsters into small, independent unions.

If that is a good thing to do, it is also a good thing to break up the American Trucking Association and other trade organizations.

Otherwise Congress merely hands a monopoly of labor over to the employers.

The Teamsters' Union is under fire today because it is the largest union in America, with close to a million members. It became large because it fulfilled its obligations to its members by providing better wages and working conditions than they could get otherwise.

Working men want to belong to that kind of a union.

We deny that this is, in any sense, a monopoly of labor. It is a free and voluntary association of individuals to promote their welfare through collective bargaining with their employers.

Employers maintain their right to organize and bargain collectively for an entire industry. As long as that is legal, it is also legal for working men and women to do the same thing.

If Congress wants to control monopoly, let it scrutinize the trade associations lobbying for inflation in the national capitol itself. When Congress restricts the activities of the livestock, real estate, manufacturing, construction and other industries, it will be time to talk about labor.

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CHAUFFEURS . . . WAREHOUSEMEN AND HELPERS

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Congress to Help Craft Unions

Teamsters in Pittsburgh Arouse Favorable Sentiment

IN SPITE of obvious attempts to discredit them, the Teamsters came through the congressional hearing in Pittsburgh last month with colors flying.

The Teamster testimony made such an impression on the congressional committee that its chairman, Congressman Samuel K. McConnell of Pennsylvania, announced in Washington on March 22 that "strong sentiment" exists among House labor committee members to protect the Teamsters and other craft unions from current practices of the National Labor Relations Board.

"There seems to be a definite indication that Congress will enact legislation that would put craft unions on an equal footing with industrial unions when both participate in NLRB elections," he said.

He said this would be accomplished through an amendment to the Wagner Act to require the NLRB to take into consideration the desires of craft unions in determining collective bargaining units.

"As it stands now," he continued in a press interview in Washington, D. C., "the NLRB orders collective bargaining elections in an entire plant. Naturally the individual craft unions are swallowed up by the industrial unions which cut across all lines."

One of the most inexcusable examples of this was the NLRB collective bargaining election held in the western Pennsylvania breweries on the petition of the employers to throw the Teamsters out of the Pittsburgh breweries.

This was thoroughly aired at the hearings of the congressional committee in a Pittsburgh federal court room on March 6 and 7. So were many other aspects of the beer lockout. The Teamsters made such a strong case that it has apparently changed the attitude of Congress and will bring legislation of material benefit to the American Federation of Labor.

Mr. McConnell's remarks were received

with pleasure and surprise from American Federation of Labor unions.

The surprise was occasioned by the tactics of Irving McCann of Washington, D. C., attorney for the special committee, during its hearings in Pittsburgh.

Mr. McCann conducted himself as a prosecutor rather than as the counsel for an impartial congressional inquiry seeking the facts of the Pittsburgh controversy, which has raged since October 7 when the brewers locked out several hundred bottlers who had joined the Teamsters' Union rather than affiliate with the CIO.

Mr. McCann treated all CIO and brewery witnesses with the utmost deference. Although the Teamsters were on trial to answer many false accusations, the congressional attorney would not permit Teamster Attorneys Ben Paul Jubelirer of Pittsburgh and I. E. Goldberg of Milwaukee to cross-examine the witnesses.

All Teamster witnesses were subjected to the most savage cross-examination by Mr. McCann, however. He repeatedly interrupted them, challenged their answers to the CIO and brewers, and in every way possible tried to give the congressmen the impression that the Teamsters were not telling the truth.

The complete failure of his efforts were indicated by the statement of Mr. McConnell and by the fair attitude of the other two congressmen on the committee, Carroll D. Kearns and Augustine B. Kelley, both of Pennsylvania.

At one point when Mr. McCann was attempting to prevent a Teamster witness from testifying, Mr. Kearns interrupted and remarked to Chairman McConnell:

"Mr. Chairman, I move that this witness be given all the time he needs to say whatever he wishes."

Mr. McConnell granted the request and the Teamsters were allowed to finish the testimony to which Mr. McCann objected.

The strong case built up for the Teamsters was the result of the testimony of International Organizers Nicholas P. Morrissey of Boston and Albert O. Dietrich of Pittsburgh.

Both were unshaken by the grilling Mr. McCann gave them and both stuck steadfastly to the facts of the dispute, refusing to be confused or angered by the hostile attitude of the lawyer.

The testimony of Mr. Morrissey and Mr. Dietrich is credited with creating the sentiment in the House labor committee to protect craft unionism.

The congressional committee was concerned by the unfair manner in which the National Labor Relations Board conducted the election in the breweries to determine the bargaining agent for the bottlers.

Even in the Brewery Workers' International, the bottlers had been a craft union. But when they went over to the Teamsters as a craft union, the NLRB refused to conduct the vote along craft lines.

Instead of confining the vote to the bottlers, the only craft under dispute, the NLRB permitted janitors, stenographers and everybody else in the breweries of western Pennsylvania to vote.

The election was not even confined to the Pittsburgh breweries but was opened up to all the CIO workers in all the breweries in all the counties of the western part of the state.

It was like permitting the citizens of New York to vote for the mayor of Jersey City.

Under such a setup, the Teamsters refused to participate and the bottlers were smothered under the CIO vote the NLRB had permitted. No other outcome was possible, as the NLRB well knew.

But the congressmen didn't like it. And as a consequence of their reaction to the unfairness of the NLRB, Mr. McConnell forecast that such craft unions as the bottlers will henceforth be protected by amendments to the Wagner Act.

When the congressional committee went to Pittsburgh it had been skillfully propagandized to believe that the Teamsters had inaugurated a "reign of terror."

For a day and one-half the "evidence" submitted by the witnesses for the brewers and the CIO was designed to support this by inference but without any proof whatsoever.

Then the Teamsters were given a chance for refutation and they did refute it so convincingly that at the conclusion of the hearing Mr. McConnell remarked that he was leaving Pittsburgh with an entirely different opinion of the Teamsters than he had when he arrived.

"If all unions had conducted themselves as well as have the Teamsters in Pittsburgh, labor would not be experiencing the trouble it is today," he said. "I find nothing in Pittsburgh to indicate that the Teamsters are guilty of the many accusations made against them."

Mr. McCann made no such admissions, however. Until the end of the hearing he was battling to prevent the admission of evidence favorable to this union and to limit the time of Teamster witnesses.

At one point his actions became so flagrantly partial that Mr. Morrissey turned to him and inquired:

"Do you carry a CIO card?"

Mr. McCann was on his feet instantly to protest to the congressmen that his motives had been questioned. A smart man, that McCann. He catches on.

The Teamsters presented their case with Mr. Dietrich as the lead-off man and Mr. Morrissey in the clean-up spot. They both scored.

In opening up for the Teamsters, Mr. Dietrich reviewed the history of the dispute in Pittsburgh. He told how the bottlers' union, by a vote of 433 to 52, without previous solicitation or influence by the Teamsters, voted to join the Teamsters and were chartered as Local No. 232 of this International on August 8, 1946, some five weeks before the Brewery Workers' International formally affiliated with the CIO at the Brewery Workers' convention in Galveston.

This proved conclusively that there was no raid on the CIO by the Teamsters because, at the time the bottlers came over to the Teamsters, their International was not in the CIO.

The transfer of the bottlers occurred at a time when the Brewery Workers' International was disintegrating, part of it going to the CIO and part of it to the Teamsters.

The Teamsters never challenged the right of the other locals of the Brewery Workers in the Pittsburgh breweries to go into the CIO. But the CIO challenged the right of the bottlers to go into the AFL.

In the case of the locals which went into the CIO, they took their contracts with them, exactly as the bottlers attempted to do when they went into the AFL.

But while maintaining the right of the other locals to take their contracts to the CIO, the CIO and the brewers denied the right of the bottlers to take theirs into the AFL.

Mr. Dietrich brought out in emphatic detail the steps taken by him in the affiliation of the bottlers. He testified that in the spring of 1946 he was contacted by Secretary James P. Murphy of the bottlers and Secretary James V. LeBarty of the soft drink workers.

Both unions were locals of the International Brewery Workers then under pressure from the CIO to affiliate under threat of being raided.

Neither local desired to join the CIO and contacted Mr. Dietrich to ascertain how they could join the Teamsters.

Mr. Dietrich related that he conferred with the executive boards of both locals and found them unanimous in their desire to affiliate. He then consulted his attorney and Teamster charters were issued to both locals.

The soft drink workers became Local No. 250 of this International.

Its transfer to the Teamsters went unchallenged, largely because the soft drink employers were completely neutral. They allowed their employees their fundamental right to join a union of their own choosing. And so the soft drink workers became Teamsters, going over as a body with their officers and their contracts, which were honored and fulfilled to the letter.

No claim has ever been raised as to the legality of the soft drink workers joining the Teamsters. But under exactly the same

circumstances, the legality of the transfer of the bottlers was challenged.

Mr. Dietrich then told the congressional committee of the pressure that was exerted on the bottlers by the brewers and the CIO.

He said that on October 5, almost two months after they had been given a Teamster charter, the Pittsburgh Brewing Company shut down its Iron City plant and assembled its employees to listen to CIO organizers.

"The employees were told that their contracts were no longer between the brewery employees and the breweries but between the CIO and the brewers," Dietrich testified. "They were told that they had to affiliate with the CIO."

This statement was false because at that time not a single contract in the Pittsburgh breweries had been negotiated by the CIO. Every contract in existence had been negotiated by the Brewery Workers as members of an independent union, affiliated with neither the CIO nor the AFL.

Mr. Dietrich testified that he then got in touch with the brewers to protest the unfairness of their action and asked for the right to address the assembled employees, as the CIO had done. His request was refused.

A few days later the Brewery Workers at the Fort Pitt and Duquesne Brewing Companies refused to load trucks driven by Teamsters. Following this, the plants of all the Pittsburgh brewers were picketed by the Teamsters.

"Has there been any organized violence in this dispute?" Congressman Kearns asked the witness.

"There has not been," Mr. Dietrich responded. "In fact, we are opposed to violence. The orders from President Tobin himself and as repeatedly passed on to us by his executive assistant, Thomas E. Flynn, have been that this dispute should be carried on without violence of any nature."

"I take it from your testimony that the prime purpose of your union is to protect the interests of its members and the public," Mr. Kearns said.

"That is correct," affirmed Mr. Dietrich.

"Has any effort been made by your union

to keep cases from coming to trial where Teamsters have been accused?"

"No such effort has been made," Mr. Dietrich answered.

Mr. McConnell then interjected a question as to how the dispute could be settled.

Mr. Dietrich electrified the courtroom and the committee by responding:

"If the employers were neutral, this could be settled tomorrow morning."

"How," asked Mr. McConnell.

"By the appointment of an arbiter," said the witness.

A tense hush fell on the courtroom as the CIO officials leaned forward in their chairs and the members of the congressional committee looked at each other in surprise.

"Who would appoint the arbiter?" Mr. McConnell asked after a pause.

"We would be willing to let this committee choose the arbiter and we would assure you we would abide by his decision," Mr. Dietrich said.

In response to another question he said:

"We would not be willing to accept an arbiter appointed by the NLRB because the NLRB is pro CIO. We would, however, trust the fairness of this congressional committee."

Mr. Dietrich did not advocate arbitration as a national policy. He confined it specifically to the Pittsburgh dispute and he accepted it there only under a committee in which he had confidence. He would not entrust his case to the federal agency whose past decisions have been so colored in favor of the CIO.

His offer answered completely the charge that the Teamsters had wantonly prolonged the Pittsburgh dispute and had refused any compromise to settle it.

Mr. Dietrich told the committee that repeated offers of compromise had been made by the Teamsters and refused by the CIO. He said that the brewers had refused to even meet with him.

His arbitration offer so staggered the CIO that it refused the offer for rebuttal testimony extended by Mr. McCann, evidently through fear that they would be asked by the congressmen why they would not accept the Teamster offer.

In his testimony concluding the hearing, Mr. Morrissey pointed out that the dispute spread to its present proportions when the Fort Pitt and Duquesne breweries injected themselves into it by refusing to load Teamsters.

Exhibiting a copy of the proceedings of the Galveston convention of the Brewery Workers on September 9, Mr. Morrissey pointed to a resolution and said:

"This resolution put the Brewery Workers on record as refusing to load trucks driven by Teamsters. It was a national policy adopted by that union and the refusal to load them in Pittsburgh was merely the consummation of the plans laid at Galveston."

Mr. Morrissey further emphasized that the contract in effect at the three Pittsburgh breweries was negotiated by the three local unions of the Brewery Workers whose members were employed there and that it was negotiated while they were independent of either AFL or CIO affiliation.

He pointed out that under the terms of the International constitution of the Brewery Workers, the secession of local unions is permitted and that therefore the action of the Pittsburgh bottlers was entirely legal.

Mr. Morrissey charged that Meade J. Mulvihill, the attorney for the brewers, was responsible for the conflict and that the whole situation was the result of blundering.

"The first mistake made was when the Pittsburgh Brewing Company did not ascertain the desire of its employees," he said. "This dispute could be settled by sane, sensible people. The present embargo is not good for anyone."

Mr. Morrissey charged without contradiction from anyone but Mr. McCann that the brewers had notified the beer distributors that unless they accepted Pittsburgh beer in violation of their contract with the Teamsters, they would lose their distributorships.

"The beer distributors held contracts with the Teamsters under which they agreed to employ only union Teamsters and to handle no beer that was unfair to the Teamsters' Union," Mr. Morrissey continued.

"When the bottlers belonging to the Teamsters were locked out of the breweries, the beer produced there became unfair to the Teamsters.

"Under our contract, it should not have been handled by the members of the Western Pennsylvania Beer Distributors' Association.

"But the brewers put pressure on the distributors to disregard their contracts with us. The extent of this pressure is shown in one instance where a tavern keeper had a mortgage on his place. He was told that unless he accepted this beer his mortgage would be foreclosed because the brewers controlled the bank that held the mortgage."

Mr. Morrissey compared the Brewery Workers' referendum of last July with "a Polish election." This was the referendum in which some 4,000 Detroit CIO members were permitted to vote on the question of whether the unaffiliated Brewery Workers should join the CIO.

Other Teamster witnesses included President Bernie Mazon of Local No. 249 of Pittsburgh, Secretary Murphy of Local No. 232 and Secretary LeBartý of Local No. 250.

Mr. Mazon attempted to show how the newspapers had printed false accounts of violence attributed to the Teamsters. He exhibited a copy of the Pittsburgh Hearst newspaper in which screaming headlines

told how several men, inferentially Teamsters, had kidnapped a beer driver and had manhandled him in a vain effort to make him disclose the names of customers receiving unfair beer.

But when the police investigated they found that the supposed beer driver had made up the entire story for a bit of publicity for himself. He was not a beer driver, he had not been kidnapped and he was not a war hero as the newspaper had indicated in its effort to arouse public indignation.

The man later confessed it was all a hoax but so far as the people who read that newspaper are concerned, the Teamsters stand smeared.

Mr. Mazon tried to read the entire newspaper story into the record of the hearings to show how unfair and unjust the newspaper had been. Mr. McCann, however, objected vigorously.

"Why, that would cost the government \$100 to print all that," he objected violently.

Mr. McCann finally consented to let the newspaper be admitted in evidence for Congress to consider.

Judging from the statement of Mr. McConnell on March 22, Congress has considered it and, in spite of Mr. McCann, we believe it has come to the conclusion that the Teamsters were the victims of a huge conspiracy in Pittsburgh.

Eastern Locals Hold Meeting in Philadelphia

Delegates from Teamster locals in eastern Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey and the New England states met in Philadelphia on March 20 to perfect plans for working in closer cooperation along the upper Atlantic seaboard. President Tobin attended the session and addressed the delegates, meeting in the Adelphia Hotel.

He stressed the need for greater harmony, not only among locals of this International but between all groups of labor. He described the present national situation as serious for labor and declared that it re-

quired sound leadership to successfully surmount the obstacles ahead.

The meeting terminated with a banquet which President Tobin described as enjoyable and helpful.

During his visit to Philadelphia Mr. Tobin conferred with International Vice Presidents Edward Crumbock of Philadelphia, Michael J. Cashal of New York and John J. Conlin of Hoboken, N. J. They discussed many matters affecting the Teamsters of that area. John O'Rourke of New York presided at the banquet.

American plays are now banned in Russian theaters. It appears that the Bolsheviks are not as dumb as we thought they were.—*The Dolores (Colo.) Star.*

Joe Hauser of St. Louis Says—

“Brewery Workers Belong in AFL”

THE Brewery Workers belong in the American Federation of Labor according to Joseph J. Hauser of St. Louis, one of their pioneer and most respected leaders.

Mr. Hauser's statement came as an electrifying development in the nation-wide drive of the Teamsters to bring the Brewery Workers back to their old home in the AFL.

The greatest mistake the Brewery Workers ever made was to affiliate with the CIO, Mr. Hauser said further.

His statement, published in full below, came after President Tobin had sent his executive assistant, Thomas E. Flynn, into St. Louis to survey conditions in the key brewery center of the United States.

Mr. Flynn had a long and friendly conference with Mr. Hauser and other officials of the Brewery Workers' and Teamsters' Unions of St. Louis on March 20.

Harmonious relations between the two unions have always existed in St. Louis. The St. Louis Brewery Workers, were so incensed when their International affiliated with the CIO last September that they have steadfastly refused to affiliate with the CIO council in St. Louis and have maintained their independent status in St. Louis.

Last August members of Brewery Workers' Local No. 43 came over to the Teamsters in a body and were chartered as Local No. 133 of the Teamsters' Union with all their officers and contracts.

When the contracts expired, the Teamsters helped them write new contracts which gave the drivers a weekly wage increase of \$10.40, the best contract they had ever obtained, according to Henry Hubele, secretary-treasurer of Local No. 133, who held a similar position in Local No. 43 of the Brewery Workers.

The other two locals of the Brewery Workers in St. Louis, one representing the bottlers and the other representing all other inside employees, were amazed at the fine contracts obtained by the drivers through the Teamsters.

Since then the sentiment for affiliation with the Teamsters has spread. It was crystallized by the statement of Mr. Hauser, following his conference with Mr. Flynn and the St. Louis Teamster leaders.

“The Brewery Workers helped organize the American Federation of Labor,” Mr. Hauser recalled in his statement. “Probably the greatest mistake they ever made was after the AFL suspended them for not living up to the AFL laws and rules, and after having been independent for so many years, and with still an opportunity of settling their jurisdictional dispute, the Brewery Workers' International joined the CIO.

“The margin of the vote to join the CIO did not represent a majority of the rank and file and all our International accomplished by joining the CIO was to cause a greater split and wider dissension in the ranks of labor.

“Under conditions existing today it is necessary for labor to be united. Jurisdictional disputes have never helped labor, have hurt the employers and have poisoned public opinion against all of labor.

“As old time Brewery Workers, our rightful place is in the American Federation of Labor because it has done so much for us and we have done so much for it.

“Today the Brewery Workers are not fighting employers; they are fighting other workers, a purpose for which we were never organized. This fight is a crime. It has cost us millions of dollars which could have been used for the members in sick and death benefits.

“Our relations with the Teamsters since the St. Louis drivers affiliated with them have been ideal. We have worked together in the utmost harmony for the benefit of all the employees in the St. Louis breweries. We intend to do everything possible to maintain that fine relationship.”

Mr. Hauser's remark concerning the margin of the vote by which the Brewery Workers favored CIO affiliation referred to the

referendum held last July among the membership.

This was carried by a vote of 22,900 for affiliation with the CIO to 19,241 against it.

At that time the Brewery Workers were independent, having been expelled from the AFL at its convention in Seattle in 1941.

The vote to join the CIO was the result of threats by that organization to raid the Brewery Workers unless they did join. Even under this pressure, the vote barely carried with some 4,000 CIO Brewery Workers in Detroit participating illegally in the election.

As members of the CIO, the Detroit Brewery Workers had no right to participate in the election of unaffiliated workers to decide whether they would join the CIO.

It was exactly that kind of an election that the National Labor Relations Board held for the bottlers in the Pittsburgh breweries.

The bottlers had joined the Teamsters. The employers demanded an election, which the NLRB granted. But instead of confining it to the workers under dispute—the bottlers in the Pittsburgh breweries—the NLRB ordered an election including all the CIO workers in the Pittsburgh breweries plus the CIO workers in all other breweries in western Pennsylvania.

Thus the NLRB permitted the CIO to decide who the bottlers should belong to. Naturally, they voted for the CIO. The result of the election, the way the NLRB had rigged it, was a foregone conclusion.

The Teamsters filed protests and refused to participate in it.

The national referendum of the Brewery Workers and the election of the NLRB are typical tactics by which the CIO has attempted to thwart the will of the majority and prevent a true expression by the rank and file.

Mr. Flynn welcomed Mr. Hauser's statement as "the most significant development in the national campaign."

"It gives assurance that the Brewery Workers of St. Louis will speedily affiliate with the Teamsters to participate in the benefits the Teamsters have gained for the Brewery Workers in every place where they joined our union.

"We have known for some time that the Brewery Workers in St. Louis were friendly to us and the statement from one of their nationally recognized leaders such as Mr. Hauser, indicates that they will not be long in returning to the American Federation of Labor."

The Hauser statement created intense interest in Pittsburgh, as in Minneapolis, Cleveland, Chicago, San Francisco, Philadelphia and other cities where the Brewery Workers are showing dissatisfaction with their CIO affiliation.

It gave great impetus to the Teamster campaign which, on the instructions of President Tobin, has been extended to cover the entire country with particular and immediate emphasis on Missouri, Minnesota, Illinois, Ohio, Connecticut, California and Pennsylvania.

Mr. Hauser's reference to the referendum calls attention to the small vote represented in the final tabulation—42,141. That proves conclusively that the Brewery Workers do not represent a majority of the employees of the beer industry in the United States.

It also proves how completely they have failed to organize their jurisdiction in other fields such as cereals and soft drinks.

If the Brewery Workers represented the jurisdiction they claim, they would have at least 300,000 members and would be growing steadily. Instead, they represent only 42,141, almost half of them hostile to the policies of the International.

The Brewery Workers' International is a dying union. The CIO can't save it because its members don't want to belong to it any more.

The most sensible thing the CIO could do for the Brewery Workers' Union would be to lay a wreath on its grave.

Strong unions, cooperating with management in a free enterprise system, can create the greatest possible production and wealth to raise wages and living standards.—*The Elevator Constructor.*

Listen to South Bend, Pittsburgh!

CIO in Indiana Contradicts CIO in Pennsylvania

THE CIO in Pittsburgh should listen to the CIO in South Bend. If they would, there would be no dispute in the Pittsburgh breweries because there would never have been a lockout.

The CIO in South Bend has opened an attack on Local No. 364 of the Teamsters' Union, seeking to alienate the employees of Drewry's brewery there.

Their literature contains this surprising statement:

"The basic purpose of the Wagner Act is to protect the workers from being discriminated against by the company for joining any union they choose.

"Consequently, all the decisions hold that for the company to fire men for trying to bring about a change of union at the proper time, as now, is discrimination.

"This means that if the company fired anyone at the request of the Teamsters, the National Labor Relations Board would put him back to work with back pay.

"We are sure the company knows this and will not accede to any demand, even if one is foolish enough to make such a request."

We agree fully with that statement. In fact, it is exactly what we have been saying in Pittsburgh since last October when the CIO and the brewers intimidated the bottlers who had joined the Teamsters and told them flatly that to hold their jobs they would have to get out of the Teamsters and into the CIO.

After this ultimatum, CIO Brewery Workers refused to load trucks driven by Teamsters. The CIO representative in Pittsburgh said he was amazed when we called this a lockout. What else could it be called in any language?

And as a climax, the bottlers who joined the Teamsters were discharged by the three Pittsburgh breweries with the connivance of the CIO.

No doubt these things will not happen in South Bend for two reasons. The first is that

the Teamsters will not use the same tactics of employer coercion that the CIO used in Pittsburgh.

The second is that the NLRB in South Bend would not permit the CIO to suffer what the NLRB permitted the Teamsters to suffer in Pittsburgh. The NLRB is notorious for its partiality to the CIO.

The State of Pennsylvania, through its unemployment compensation division, ruled that a bona fide labor dispute existed in the Pittsburgh breweries and allowed unemployment compensation to the locked-out Teamsters.

But no relief came from the NLRB. Quite the contrary. It lined up with the employers and the CIO against the Teamsters.

President Walter E. Biggs of Local No. 364 said that the CIO drive among the Drewry employees was a "complete waste of time." "These men came over to us by overwhelming vote in April, 1942. They belonged to the Brewery Workers' Union at that time and the Brewery Workers had just negotiated a contract for them.

"We immediately wrote a new contract at higher wages. We gave them the best contract they had ever been able to obtain. We also gave the scale to all the employees of the brewery instead of merely a favored few.

"At the time the employees joined the Teamsters, more than half of them were working as permit men. Although the Brewery Workers held a contract for Drewry's, the majority of the workers were denied the right to join the union.

"They paid dues as permit fees and received wages of approximately \$4 less a week than the favored workers who were admitted to membership in the Brewery Workers' Union.

"We did away with that discrimination. We got a higher scale and we got it for

everybody. We also got them seniority, which they had never had before.

"We found men who had been working as permit men for eight years. When the Teamsters took over, we not only gave them full membership but we gave them seniority dating back to the time they were employed.

"Today the Drewry employees are receiving about 10 cents more per hour than the employees of two other breweries in South Bend working under CIO contracts.

"All the CIO is asking the Drewry workers is to take a step backward, which they do not intend to do. The CIO would have more influence if it would raise the scale in the breweries it represents instead of asking Teamsters to join a union that offers them lower wages."

Mr. Biggs exhibited another piece of CIO literature as indicative of the deception being practiced on brewery employees.

This stated:

"Another tip that will interest you is your dues. Only 50 cents of your dues will go to the International. The balance of \$1.50 will stay in your own local, for you as a member to say what shall be done with it."

By inference or ignorance, the CIO committee in South Bend indicates that the payments of the CIO local to its International are substantially less than the Teamsters pay to their International.

The facts are the CIO payments are 66 per cent higher than the Teamsters. While 50 cents of the monthly dues go to the CIO International, only 30 cents go to the Teamsters' International.

Thus the CIO is inviting the employees of Drewry's to join a union which will take considerably more per month per member than they pay now.

SOUTHERN CONFERENCE STRESSES HIGHWAY SAFETY

A highway safety program of a scope previously unattempted will be developed at the Southern Conference of Teamsters seventh annual meeting which opens in Savannah on April 14.

President Truman has been asked to send a representative of the National Highway Safety Committee to the conference and

The CIO is offering the Drewry employees higher dues and lower wages. That's why Mr. Biggs is not concerned over the outcome. The Drewry employees are smart enough to figure it out for themselves.

"It is clear from the literature being circulated by the CIO in South Bend that its authors are not familiar with the brewery situation here or elsewhere," Mr. Biggs said.

"They are likewise uninformed about the policies of either the Teamsters or Brewery Workers' Union. With this type of advice the Brewery Workers in South Bend will get exactly where they are now—nowhere."

Mr. Biggs said further that the Teamsters had boycotted Kamm's beer in South Bend because its wages were so low.

Although Kamm's held a CIO contract, the Teamsters took this step to benefit the employees to a degree the CIO had been unable or unwilling to do.

Immediately the CIO protested the Teamster efforts to raise wages at Kamm's, and an International representative of the Brewery Workers urged Mr. Biggs to remove the boycott.

The Teamster official said he would do so if the Brewery Workers would compel Kamm's to pay the high scale won by the Teamsters. The Brewery Worker official agreed and the boycott was removed.

But, as usual, the Brewery Workers failed to make good their promises. The scale was not raised to the level of Drewry's. The CIO is on record in South Bend for refusing to permit the wages of their members to be raised.

Yet the Brewery Workers become indignant when anybody says they are a company union. We don't say it—the record proves it—in South Bend and in Pittsburgh.

directors of all departments of public safety in 10 southern states have been invited to attend.

The Teamsters are vitally conscious of the fact that 34,000 people lost their lives in traffic accidents last year. It is their desire to formulate plans to minimize these accidents and to cut down the death rate.

What Are We Cooking With? Oil?

Let's Have All the Facts About Turkey and Greece

LIKE most other Americans, the Teamsters are opposed to Communism and they are opposed to war.

They are opposed not only to Communism but to Fascism and every other form of totalitarian government in which the individual is regimented and oppressed.

We condemn them all.

When President Truman recommended economic and military aid to Greece and Turkey he put this nation and every one of its citizens up against a momentous decision.

We can go along with the economic aid. We are quick to sympathize with the suffering of others. As union men, we are imbued with the principle of raising the standard of living for working people. We are willing and anxious to do all in our power to alleviate suffering, particularly for a heroic little nation such as Greece.

We remember how they hurled the Italian legions back and forced Hitler to send troops he needed elsewhere, to save Mussolini's face.

We don't know so much about Turkey except that she fought us in the first World War and didn't help us in the second. There may be some good reason why Turkey should now receive our help even though she is a dictatorship.

We believe the time has come for President Truman to tell us what's cooking. Let him lay all the cards on the table and tell us why military aid is recommended for Greece and how much.

Let him tell us how this affects our future. Will it involve us in a war with Russia in the distant Mediterranean where we would face a colossal task of transporting and supplying an army?

And why does Turkey need economic and military help? What will she do with it, especially the military help? The Turks have the reputation of being restless with

weapons. They believe that every Turk killed in battle goes direct to heaven where he is feasted and feted by beautiful dancsels.

Personally, we don't care how many Turks go to heaven or how well they are treated there. But we don't want them to start a war just for the purpose of getting themselves killed so they can go to heaven. We don't want to go there with them, at least not just yet.

Frankly, the idea of arming the Turks does not appeal to us, although there may be sound reasons for it. All we ask is what are these reasons?

Teamsters are vitally interested. Some 125,000 of them have just come back from one war. They are not eager to dash off to another.

If the United States is about to embark on a policy that may produce war, we, the men who will fight on the battle front or sweat on the home front are entitled to know all the facts.

Aside from the suffering, the slaughter and the savagery, there is another thing that concerns us about war. It is the threat to human freedom.

The last war necessitated restrictions unknown in any previous struggle. Federal regulations enmeshed everyone. The unions lost much of their freedom. They were under government control. We were fortunate that the controls were removed so speedily when the war ended.

Another war would mean more severe restrictions because our economy would be strained more severely. It is doubtful if our economic system could withstand the shock of another war. It is certain that we would be forced to live for a long time under rigid restrictions. It is conceivable that we might wind up under a totalitarian government ourselves.

These are alarming prospects. They should be pondered by everyone in deciding

what road we are to travel in world affairs. We do not want to be thrown into war with Russia or anybody else.

The British empire, as a result of two world wars, and the education of its colonial peoples, is dismembered. We cannot look to England as the powerful ally she was in two past conflicts.

We are strictly on our own, now. We have no one to hold the enemy at bay while we hastily prepare for action. Our next war will be ours, and ours alone.

This does not mean that we lack appreciation of the menace of Communism. We are glad that President Truman and Secretary of Labor Schwollenbach have belatedly seen it, too.

But we do not want them to be so overcome by their sudden vision that they lose their heads.

For many years the Teamsters' Union has been an unyielding foe of Communism.

We were against Communism before it was fashionable to be, as it is today. Back

in 1940 we amended our International constitution so that no member of the Communist party could hold membership in this union. We were the first union to adopt such a provision. We recognized the danger then and we took steps to combat it.

Instead of being given credit for that, we were abused by some of the very politicians' who beat their breasts in alarm today.

Let's cut out the gestures and get down to some plain, honest talk. It is admitted, for instance, that American oil interests have huge investments in the Middle East. Perhaps that oil is essential to the welfare of the United States.

If it is, the government of the United States should take over those oil properties and operate them as a public necessity. We should not be forced into a perilous position to protect the profits of the oil industry.

That brings us back to our original inquiry.

What's cooking, Mr. President? Is it turkey? Or grease? Or oil?

Follow Constitution in Calling Strikes

All local unions are cautioned to rigidly observe the provisions of the International constitution before engaging in any strike.

No strike should be called until every chance of a peaceful settlement has been attempted. That has long been the policy of this International and it has been successful in bringing higher wages and better working conditions without the wage losses that a strike always imposes.

Any strike today, no matter how justifiable, is likely to be used as political propaganda by labor's enemies. We are of the opinion that Congress intends to enact drastic legislation that will expose unions to lawsuits for heavy damages.

Under such legislation, unions and their officers would be in constant danger.

President Tobin has repeatedly warned against unauthorized work stoppages and wildcat strikes. He has invoked sharp penalties against those responsible. Men and unions who participate in such unauthorized strikes face expulsion. That is the only way the International can protect itself from irresponsible persons in its ranks.

All local unions should take warning at the recent decisions of the courts. One of the most powerful unions in America was brought to its knees by court decisions imposing heavy fines on John L. Lewis personally and on the United Mine Workers.

Unions must walk warily and be certain that they are conducting themselves in conformity with their own laws as well as the laws of the land.

Greek Relief Drive Worthy of Support

A campaign to raise \$12 million for the relief of the Greeks has been given the approval of the American Federation of Labor and many of its affiliates.

The money will be used for the care of orphans, underfed families and medical care. It is a worthy cause and should receive the assistance of local unions.

Milwaukee is Having it Delivered

Joint Council Launches Big Promotion Campaign

"HAVE IT DELIVERED!" These words are echoing over Milwaukee and a large part of Wisconsin as a result of the campaign by Joint Council No. 50 to stimulate deliveries and return service to its prewar status.

The joint council has appointed a campaign committee headed by Alois Mueller of Local No. 360 and comprising Lloyd Skeen of Local No. 200, Henry Gunderson of Local No. 225 and Charles Kuchler of Local No. 347.

The committee is overlooking no opportunity to bring its message before the people of Milwaukee. The highlight of the campaign is a jingle contest open to everyone in Milwaukee and its vicinity except officers and employees of the joint council and members of the campaign committee and their families.

The contest closes on May 3 and the winners will be announced at the annual Truck Drivers' Ball on May 10 in the Milwaukee auditorium.

The jingles must contain the three slogans:

Promote Employment.
For Convenience.
Have It Delivered.

Interest in the contest has been promoted by an extensive advertising campaign and five prizes which the Teamsters are offering the winners. They are an electric range, an electric refrigerator, an electric freezer, an electric wringer washing machine and an electric vacuum cleaner.

Display advertisements have been carried in the daily newspapers announcing the contest and giving its rules. Spot announcements are being carried over three Milwaukee radio stations and card space has been purchased in all streetcars and buses.

In addition, 20 theatres are carrying notices of the contest on their screens while thousands of individual Teamsters are wearing large oval buttons carrying in red

letters the words "Have It Delivered" around a picture of a delivery truck.

And not overlooking any possible avenue of publicity, the campaign committee is distributing thousands of book matches with big red letters on the covers repeating the slogan and pointing out that delivery service provides jobs.

In a letter to President Tobin announcing the campaign and enclosing samples of the publicity, Mr. Mueller expressed his confidence that the program would achieve its objective in making the citizens of Milwaukee so conscious of delivery service that they would insist on it.

President Tobin warmly indorsed the campaign and said he hoped that other joint councils would take similar action to stimulate deliveries.

The Milwaukee Federated Trades Council and the Wisconsin State Federation of Labor have both adopted resolutions urging delivery service and all affiliates of both organizations have been circularized.

The problem Milwaukee faces is identical with that of other cities across the country. In all cases, stores, bakeries, laundries, dairies and other establishments have been reluctant to restore the service they gave their customers prior to the war.

Consequently, thousands of war veterans have had difficulty regaining their jobs.

When service was drastically curtailed during the war to conserve men and equipment, the Teamsters patriotically cooperated, even though they realized the federal regulations struck a body blow at their craft.

They expected that when the war emergency was over the employers would be equally patriotic and public spirited by resuming the service they had suspended.

Instead, the employers clung to the huge profits they had piled up by making their customers carry their packages or accept long delays. The stores did not reduce their

prices when the government forced them to suspend delivery service.

They just put the extra profit in their pockets.

The public is still paying for delivery service whether it gets it or not. If people insist on this service they will be benefiting the community by providing jobs, as well as saving themselves the inconvenience of carrying their packages home or the expense of driving their own cars downtown when they shop.

The carrying of packages on streetcars and buses is not only an inconvenience to the individual shopper but a still greater inconvenience to the public.

It slows the movement of passengers and causes needless crowding during hours when the transportation system is carrying its greatest burden.

Anyone who has stood patiently in line

while a woman fumbles for her change with an armful of parcels appreciates the value of delivery service.

Wherever the facts have been laid before the public, the response has been excellent. The scale on which Milwaukee is promoting delivery service should provide hundreds of jobs.

If this, or some kind of publicity program is launched by all other joint councils, thousands of men will be given good jobs under union conditions.

The stores will provide as much service as their customers demand. It is up to the Teamsters to stimulate this demand by laying the facts before the customers and making them realize that it is no longer patriotic to carry their packages.

It helped the country to carry them in war. It helps the country not to carry them in peace.

Teamsters Win New Jersey Brewery Election

By better than a two to one vote the employees of the William Peter Brewing Company of Jersey City ended an attempted CIO raid on that plant and on the Old Dutch Sales Company, also of Jersey City, on March 17.

After the vote at the William Peter Brewing Company, the CIO abandoned its plans to hold an election at the Old Dutch Sales Company, according to the report sent International headquarters by Jacob J. Duey, secretary-treasurer of Local No. 185 of Hudson County, N. J.

Both Jersey City plants had a closed shop contract with Teamster Local No. 185.

The CIO had been carrying on a long campaign to win the employees away from the Teamsters. Believing that they had succeeded, the CIO petitioned for a National Labor Relations Board election in both plants.

After a hearing on March 10, the board set the election for March 17 at the brewery. No date was set for the election at the Old Dutch Company pending the outcome of the other.

For the purpose of their campaign, the CIO revived Local No. 148 of the Brewery

Workers which went out of existence in July, 1942, when its entire membership went over to the Teamsters and became Local No. 153 of this International.

Local No. 148 was one of six Brewery Workers' locals in New Jersey which went over to the Teamsters at that time following the unanimous vote of their membership by secret ballot.

That left only one Brewery Workers' local in New Jersey. It has about 500 of the 5,000 brewery employees in that state. The rest are Teamsters.

The brewery employees of Jersey City refused to bring old Local No. 148 out of its grave.

They let it lie with the bleached bones and the sour memories of its five sister locals. Since the members of those six locals of the Brewery Workers joined the Teamsters, the wages have gone up from 25 to 40 per cent for most of them and still more for the remainder.

In not one single case where Brewery Workers left their union to join the Teamsters have they ever voted to go back. The brewery employees of Jersey City kept that record unanimous on March 17.

Discontent is Sweeping England

Labor Government Engaged in Life and Death Struggle

By IRVING BROWN

This highly informative report from the AFL's own representative in Europe has just been released by Matthew Woll, chairman of the International Labor Relations Department. It gives a first hand account of conditions that vitally affect labor, there and here.

THIS is the first time in England that I have been so impressed by the rise of discontent and general grumbling over the daily existence.

On the buses, subways, and in the homes and offices, people are beginning to complain with bitterness not merely over the present miserable economic existence but are beginning to direct their barbs against the government or against certain individuals in the government (as in the case of Shinwell, minister of fuel).

There is still a tremendous "reservoir of good will" for the labor government and a spartan determination to support all measures needed to strengthen and stabilize the British economy but at the same time there is a growth of skepticism and disillusionment about whether the ends are attainable or perhaps even worth while.

It seems that the great mass support and moral foundations of the labor government's attempt to build "democratic Socialism" are weakened, which has not been true in the past. This whole development has been greatly aggravated by the present serious coal crisis.

The present coal situation, brought about by the severe cold and snow, dramatizes the most serious and basic problem facing the British government. It is really the Achilles' heel of the labor government's program.

It is the one outstanding issue in the domestic program upon which the Labor Party can lose the next election.

The present crisis can be overcome and the winter is over, but the basic coal deficiency will remain to plague the British next year if drastic means are not undertaken to overcome the manpower shortage which

prevents the coal miners from digging the necessary amount of coal.

With efficiency lowered, less workers in the mines, increased demands to meet England's increased and general industrial needs, more men must go into the industry to secure the over-all increase.

The refusal on the part of the trade unions to permit the use of "foreign labor" (which is tied up with the general agitation on the Polish question) is preventing the use of one of the major sources of supply—not that it would meet the complete needs which must now be about an additional 100,000 tons at the minimum but would be a partial solution along with an accelerated program of new mining machinery.

The unions are beginning to weaken under the general pressure and will have to permit the use of foreign labor. This manpower crisis is leading to increased pressure for further demobilization which thus influences the foreign policy of the government.

In conversation with Ziliacus, it developed that the "rebel" group in the Labor Party is planning to utilize this manpower issue to launch an attack on the low levels of demobilization as a solution of the manpower problem. They will really be attacking the foreign policy of the British, which needs its military power to back up its joint program with the Americans of resisting Russia.

It will be popular with the masses since it will be couched in terms of solving domestic problems and alleviating the conditions of a long suffering people. This attack is planned for the period immediately after the present coal crisis. Ziliacus maintained that they expect 200 votes in Parliament

on this question as compared to their last 110 votes on the direct issue of Bevin's foreign policy.

Tying into the general economic difficulties, there is the perennial wage-price problem with great pressure developing among the masses for wage increases as well as for numerous wage adjustments.

However, the government's economic policy is to restrain the pressure on prices which up to the present has prevented an inflationary situation such as has plagued most of Europe.

As compared to an income of 7,000,000 pounds there is only 6,000,000 pounds' worth of goods to buy. Any further attempt to increase the supply of money will widen this gap and thus increase the tendency towards inflation.

The trade union leaders, who are the main bulwark of the government, are in the ticklish situation of having to support the government policy of no wage increases and at the same time defend the economic interests of the workers which in many cases call for wage demands.

This can always prove to be a fertile field for the Communists, especially now with their increased strength in many unions. Not only is the Communist Party openly calling for such a line, but within the unions and beneath the surface such economic issues can always be used against especially strong anti-Communist people.

Relative to the latter question, I learned that the union leaders in negotiations with the government had practically agreed to a policy which would have frozen wages and permitted the employers and the Communists to use this at will against the trade unions while the pressure from below would mount.

However, this was changed at the last moment and no such sweeping declaration will be forthcoming although it will be understood that large scale wage increases are out of the question. This is a very hard period for the labor movement and will call for untold restraint upon the part of the masses plus an unusual degree of finesse and wise tactics by the union leaders.

While the labor government is on the

defensive relative to its domestic program; engaged in a life and death struggle to make good its Socialist program, it becomes more difficult than ever for the Bevin policy of resistance to Russia to remain unchanged. There seems to be an unbending process under way with all sorts of possible signs of appeasement (including the last speech of Bevin on the results of the New York conference of UN).

It is becoming practically impossible for Bevin, with all the problems at home plus the sniping and caucusing of the fellow-travelers and Communists, as well as the Palestine affair, not to make concessions. This does not look too encouraging in view of the German treaty discussions in Moscow.

In mentioning the German problem, which still remains the key question in European politics, the seriousness of the British predicament is accentuated by the new maneuvers of Bidault (French foreign minister), who is trying to negotiate a secret agreement with the Russians on Germany. With trouble at home and the French playing a double game, Bevin entered the Moscow negotiations in the weakest possible condition. If the Americans are not strong or begin to pussyfoot on the German economic and political needs or if U. S. Secretary of State Marshall shows himself ready to appease on Russian demands in Germany, then all is lost not only for the British but for ourselves.

All these international and political questions bear directly on the future of the trade unions in Europe. And the tragedy is that the British leaders in the trade unions are either unaware of the implications or too imprisoned in their own affiliation to the WFTU to do much about the situation or take action to break the increasing use made by the Russians of the WFTU as an instrument of their foreign policy.

Tewson, the new secretary-general of the British Trade Union Conference, called me in recently. He was very concerned over my proposed visit to Greece. He felt that the group which has invited us is trying to use the AFL as a tool in the internal Greek situation and against the TUC and WFTU, which have proposed a program of unity.

He spent an hour and a half in a sort of indirect attempt to convince me not to go. I merely told him that I had my orders and had no opinion on the subject until I could personally investigate the Greek situation.

I also emphasized the fact that no one can or will use us as a tool but was clear as to our attitude on the Communist Party and the WFTU but did not want to do anything to jeopardize our long standing fraternal relationships with the TUC.

We parted as good friends and I hope to see him in Greece. He also informed me that one of the English correspondents had cabled a long interview with a leader of the Greek Confederation of Labor (anti-Communist), who stated that Brown and Tewson were coming to Greece and that he (the Greek) preferred the kind of "intervention" of Brown, whose "views are well known" to the position of "Tewson and the Russian dominated WFTU."

So you see I am in the middle of the fight again and can warn you to be prepared for a new string of attacks by the

Russians, French and now maybe some of the British softies.

The AFL should take every opportunity to let the new secretary of state know that they would look with disfavor on any change in the American embassy in Paris. There is talk and rumor about the replacement of Caffrey. This would be a disaster at this time not only for us but for the USA and would be interpreted as a victory for the Russians. This is not the time to change horses in midstream and really Caffrey has been a bulwark for the right side in this struggle.

The Socialist Party has begun to make some moves on the trade union side in France that are encouraging. They have just set up a committee and bureau on trade union work and put an excellent man in charge of the building up of real progressive groups. I can vouch for the soundness and the ability of these people. I shall work with them very closely and aid now can be strategically used—so remember when requests come they are urgent.

West Coast Prepares for Convention


Plans for the International convention to open August 11 in San Francisco are being pushed rapidly under the direction of the five joint councils on the Pacific Coast.

These are Joint Councils No. 7 of San Francisco, No. 28 of Seattle, No. 37 of Portland, No. 38 of the San Joaquin and Sacramento valleys of California, and No. 42 of Los Angeles.

A committee of ten with two delegates from each of the joint councils is in charge of convention plans. Director D. W. Marshall of the Promotional League of Joint Council No. 28 is in San Francisco handling room reservations and other details for the committee.

All reservations for hotel rooms will be cleared through the office of the committee. No hotel will accept reservations from any other source.

At an early date complete information will be sent to all local unions from the committee headquarters. The sessions of the convention will be held in the San Francisco civic auditorium.



LABOR NEWS NOTES OF THE MONTH

From the Federated Press

WASHINGTON—With only three dissenting votes, the Senate labor committee has approved the appointment of Gerard L. Reilly as its legislative advisor. Reilly, former member of the NLRB who voted rather consistently against unions, has recently been associated with Sen. Joseph H. Ball in writing anti-labor legislation. Senators Wayne Morse of Oregon, George Aiken of Vermont and Irving Ives of New York, all Republicans, voted against Reilly, while the Democrats joined Ball, Chairman Robert A. Taft and other Republicans in supporting his selection.

INDIANAPOLIS—Joint action by AFL, CIO and railroad brotherhood unionists has knocked out an anti-mass picketing bill and other anti-labor legislation before the Indiana general assembly.

WASHINGTON—Paying decent salaries to teachers is a must if the nation is to provide veteran students first rate educational opportunities, said Major Gen. Graves B. Erskine March 12 before a Retraining and Rehabilitation Administration conference on community service.

PORTLAND, ORE.—In a move to prevent higher light bills for consumers, Local No. 48, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (AFL) is opposing efforts to increase Bonneville wholesale power rates. Higher light bills would result, since the Portland General Electric Co. is the largest distributor of Bonneville power.

BOSTON—Secretary of State George C. Marshall's criticism of the recent Polish elections as undemocratic was denounced here as "phony" by ex-Governor Ellis Arnall of Georgia, who pointed out that "one-third of the people in his own state (Virginia) are denied the right to vote."

WASHINGTON—The AFL Committee on International Labor Relations recommended March 9 that "no collaboration is possible with the Argentine Confederation of Labor as at present constituted" under President Juan Peron.

CHICAGO—Unionists were advised by AFL President William Green March 6 to ignore state legislation against the closed shop until it has been ruled upon by the U. S. supreme court.

SAN FRANCISCO—A new \$700,000 steel and marble union building is being built by the Sailors' Union of the Pacific (AFL) as "a living monument to sailors who died for their country during the war."

WASHINGTON—The giants of American electrical equipment manufacturing, General Electric Co. and Westinghouse Corp., have agreed to dissolve their international ties and stop their illegal cartel activities, Attorney General Tom Clark announced March 12.

AMHERST, MASS.—Some 160 professors of economics and political science in universities and colleges throughout the country added their voices here to the protest against pending anti-labor legislation. In a joint letter to Chairman Robert A. Taft of the Senate labor committee, they said: "We strongly oppose any legislation which attempts to wipe out the gains made in the last decade granting the workers a somewhat more equal bargaining position with industry, and which proposes to place workers at the mercy of their employers."

WASHINGTON—A new postwar low mark in time lost through strikes was reached in January, according to the bureau of labor statistics. While Congress looked into so-called causes of labor disputes, labor racked up a record of losing but two-tenths of 1 per cent of estimated working time through work stoppages. This was one-half the time lost in December, and one-sixteenth the rate of January, 1946.

FAIRBANKS, ALASKA—A troop of 11 rugged Teamsters who for over three weeks bucked snow drifts in sub-freezing weather have arrived here after hauling 18 pieces of heavy construction equipment from Seattle over the 1,600-mile Alcan highway. The crew, members of Local No. 174 of Seattle, was part of a "test-tube" experiment to determine whether some 100 pieces of equipment for use in constructing permanent army and navy bases in the far north would be hauled overland or shipped by water to Alaska ports.

WASHINGTON—Strikes against the government were made illegal in a 7 to 2 decision of the U. S. supreme court March 6 upholding the lower court in its verdict against the United Mine Workers and President John L. Lewis. Chief Justice Fred M. Vinson read the majority opinion which cut the fine of the UMW to \$700,000 from \$3.5 million but allowed the full \$10,000 levy against Lewis to stand.

CLEVELAND—Assistant Secretary of Labor Philip Hannah told the Cleveland AFL that if pending anti-labor bills are passed, "we will see the greatest period of industrial chaos in the history of this nation."

MONTGOMERY, ALA.—President R. R. Wade of the Alabama Federation of Labor has been named state labor commissioner by Gov. James E. Folsom. A member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Wade is drafting a revised labor code for submission to the state legislature.

NEW YORK—A history-making one-day strike at the New York Cotton Exchange March 4 brought a quick victory to 103 AFL workers who shut the trading post down tight. The exchange, largest in the world, was forced to close at 9 a. m. when the surprise walkout was called. It was the first time any major exchange had been forced to suspend business because of a labor dispute.

BOSTON—Massachusetts congressmen have been urged by 69 Bay Staters, many of them nationally known like Presidents James B. Conant of Harvard and Karl T. Compton of Massachusetts Institute of Technology, to put an end to "star chamber proceedings" by the House committee on un-American activities.

SEATTLE—Striking against rent control, local landlords are holding 2,000 vacant apartments off the home real estate market. Wherever possible the apartments are rented for offices, for which there are no rent ceilings.

NEW YORK—The International Ladies Garment Workers' Union (AFL) and three employer groups settled a contract dispute over contract terms covering 80,000 workers on the eve of what would have been the first New York dress industry strike in 14 years. The workers got a 7 per cent raise after an original 20 per cent demand.

WASHINGTON—The nation's 400 or more labor papers face extinction along with thousands of fraternal, church, foreign language, trade and community dailies and weeklies, unless the government steps in to prevent their being starved of newsprint now going to the daily press.

BOISE, IDA.—Idaho's labor groups, aided by a threatened split in the state's Republican party, have successfully halted legislative action to re-establish the Idaho Department of Labor, a proposal which included anti-labor features resembling those passed in other legislatures.

WASHINGTON—The alarming growth of industrial monopoly by mergers and acquisition of small companies by large ones must be halted if the U. S. is to prevent an industrial super-government like that of the I. G. Farben chemical trust in Germany, the Federal Trade Commission said March 11.

RALEIGH, N. C.—A bill outlawing the closed shop and other forms of union security was given final approval by the North Carolina legislature March 13. The bill automatically becomes law since the governor has no veto power. Passage of the bill makes North Carolina the ninth state to ban the closed shop. It has already been banned in Arkansas, Arizona, Florida, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Tennessee and Virginia.

Wildcat Strikes Are Suppressed

President Tobin Cites St. Louis and Chicago Incidents

By DANIEL J. TOBIN

OUR membership may be reading in the papers about some trouble that the International Union had in the city of St. Louis. The newspapers gave the International Union a great deal of credit for its action there in insisting that our signed contracts with our employers be observed and that the public be not inconvenienced.

We have very often had a great deal of difficulty in reaching agreements with our employers, but when we do sign a contract, we are determined (and our past history proves this) to do everything in our power to carry out that contract.

There is one outstanding instance that, for the benefit of the public, I like to refer to. In the city of Chicago the newspaper publishers for many years had considerable trouble with the drivers and helpers or with our local union of newspaper distributors.

It is a very fine union now and is very well managed, and nothing but good will prevails amongst the membership and the officers, and, as far as that goes, with the employers.

Of course, there is the usual number of complaints and grievances from members and from employers, but they sit down together and adjust them.

This local was, for a number of years, an independent union. It was affiliated with a group in Chicago that was at one time expelled from this International Union because of conditions inside the locals.

The local union of newspaper drivers in Chicago went out on strike over 30 years ago. Remember, they were outside the International Union. The strike was one of the worst in the history of the newspaper business of Chicago.

It was a sympathetic strike. The drivers went out in sympathy with the pressmen. The strike was uncalled for. It was senseless and should have never taken place. But they had weak leadership, and they had no affiliation with the International Union. No

one to answer to or to advise and guide them.

The men fought desperately for five or six months, and the power of the newspaper publishers was such that it had practically destroyed the union, and although it cost the newspaper industry perhaps over a million dollars in losses, the publishers were determined that they would not surrender. They were of the opinion, and perhaps somewhat justified in their opinion, that the newspaper drivers, independent, had broken their agreement and violated their solemn and binding pledge to the publishers.

At any rate, the union was licked, and then the officers came to the International office and requested affiliation or a charter from the International Union. After considerable discussion, we agreed to give them a charter. I believe at that time we gave them some money to help out some of their members who were in dire distress. They were impoverished from a long period of unemployment, and they were harassed with court cases and with the many other expenses that are involved in strikes, such as injunctions, etc.

After affiliation, the International president, with the aid of the then president of the Typographical Union, James M. Lynch, obtained conferences with the newspaper publishers' association of Chicago.

After many weeks of those conferences with Victor Lawson, who was then president of the association, and all his associates, we reached an agreement, and some of the provisions in that agreement would surprise our members of today. The local union had to agree to go to work side by side with the strike breakers who were employed during the strike, and who turned out to be fairly good drivers—some of them.

This was a hard pill to swallow, but as Mr. Lawson said in the presence of Andy Lawrence, who was then manager of the Hearst publications in Chicago, he spent his

life trying to build up his paper. It was a monument to the work of his lifetime, and he was never again going to see the products of that lifetime burned under his nose outside his office.

The drivers, on the advice of the International officials, aided by President Bill Neer of the Chicago joint council, accepted the terms of the agreement, and, of course, it did not take long for the strike breakers to find other jobs.

The union is now, and has been for 30 years, 100 per cent union shop, and the men, I believe, are receiving as fine conditions as any class of drivers in the same business anywhere in the country. The point I want to make is that in all those 30 years since, there has not been one strike or stoppage of work in that industry in Chicago.

The men have maintained their agreements because the International Union has insisted that those agreements be carried out to the letter, and great credit is due the membership and officers. Nothing but beneficial results have come to the newspaper industry in Chicago during that time.

An employer is very happy when he finds out after weeks of negotiation that he has signed a contract for two or three years, and knows that he can proceed from there with the understanding that the contract will be lived up to. He is entitled to that protection.

We have an agreement with the trucking industry in St. Louis, a union shop agreement which does not expire until next June 30, but for the last year a few smart Alecs working for the trucking companies have made it a habit to come to the meetings and destroy the orderly procedure by continual harping about grievances.

The main purpose of these continual nasty arguments in the meetings was to obtain office by those chronic growlers. It is well known that six or seven disturbers in any meeting, who are trained, perpetual, chronic agitators can make more trouble than 600 or 1,000 decent, honest-thinking members.

If they do nothing else, they wear out the members by their hours of continual harping and growling about conditions in the industry; and I might say in passing that

conditions, including wages and hours, are so far ahead of what they used to be in St. Louis a few years ago that there is no comparison.

Then they had another line; continuously finding fault with the union officers. When the regular election came around, it was carried on in an orderly manner, and the membership refused to elect to office an individual who was causing most of the trouble.

In a visit to the International office, he advised the general president that there was a fair, square, honest election and that he was given a just opportunity, and there was no interference with any candidate or with any member who cast his ballot secretly. But he was not satisfied at the result of the election. They were still creating a disturbance.

They hired an attorney to take care of their affairs—a very high-class gentleman—but, like other attorneys, he did the best he could for his clients.

In the meantime, we had the enemy at the door in the form of the CIO or somebody else, who was continually watching for a disagreement amongst any of our members, waiting to grab them off no matter what kind of people they were. That is what comes of the division in the labor movement.

Eventually, the International president appointed a trustee or receiver over the affairs of the union. We advised the representative of the disturbers that that would be the answer to their objections. The trustee took charge of the affairs of the local union, appointed one or two extra business agents, as they needed extra help, but this group of professional disturbers continued to defy the rulings of the International trustee.

Eventually, they went so far as to pull a rump strike and hold private meetings. The general president ordered that charges be preferred against them, as they were satisfied with nothing except their attempt to get control of the union and its large treasury.

Charges were preferred against them in the regular form. They were given sufficient notice, and several of them were expelled from the union after an opportunity to pre-

sent all their evidence and witnesses. Of course, they have the right to appeal. In fact, they have many appeals. Immediately, ex-service men, good drivers, members of the union, replaced them. The employers were notified that those men were no longer members of the union and that our union shop agreement must be observed. The employer complied with the agreement and those individuals were laid off by the employers, in accordance with the signed contract.

After this they started out to tear up the city of St. Louis, by asking all the employees in certain garages to join with them. This crowd went to other garages, and they finally were successful in getting about 400 or 500 men to stop work.

The local union has about 5,000 members. The International Union sent in a number of men, and every business agent and officer of our local unions in the city of St. Louis pledged his full and undivided help in any way that they were called on by the International Union until this matter was ended.

We sent in our publicity agent, and he got in touch with the newspapers of St. Louis, who, when they heard the story, gave full publicity to the whole affair, and in that way informed our large membership and the other members of the trade union movement and the public in general as to the real conditions and the cause of the disturbance.

In a few days the men who were foolish enough to quit their jobs and follow those tricky, selfish disturbers begged to be allowed to go back to work. The thing has petered out now so that at this writing every man is back to work except those who have been expelled after trial by the local union or discharged for cause by their employers.

The International Union does not like to do those things, but it must be remembered

that we also have an obligation and that we must protect the unions against wrongdoers and disturbers and we must carry out our agreements when they are signed and entered into if it is humanly possible for us to do so.

Any foolish group in any district which has been brought to their present position by the aid and strength of their union and of the International Union, must get this into their heads now—that if they ever get so cocky and self-important that they think they can defeat this International Union, they are making the mistake of their lives.

We don't want trouble and disagreement, but when it is forced on us, we will never back down if it costs every dollar in the treasury to maintain our honor, our pledged word to our employers and our sacred trust and obligation to our general membership who have commanded us to carry out the laws of the International Union.

We have gone through many secession movements, and every leader of a secession group, while he was on top of the world for a few hours or days, eventually found himself on the outside biting his fingernails for the blunder that he made when he thought he or his few foolish followers were bigger than the institution that created them.

Don't be foolish. Don't be avaricious. Don't attempt to destroy the union that has done so much for the general membership. It can't be done. It won't be done. Keep your feet on the ground and your head on your shoulders. Don't make the mistake that others have made as far back as 30 years ago, who, as stated above, lived to regret their action.

If there is anything wrong within your union or if you have any grievances, there are provisions set up within the International constitution and within your local by-laws whereby those grievances can be discussed and straightened out in accordance with law and order.

So long as the South is unorganized, it affords unscrupulous employers an opportunity to compete unfairly with employers who pay union wages and maintain union standards. The South will benefit most of all from the AFL campaign. Higher wages will put the southern states into the better brackets with respect to individual wealth and income and educational facilities and standards.—The Government Standard, Federal AFL Employees.

Science is Reducing Employment

Planning Is Necessary to Avoid Another Depression

By ARTHUR A. ELDER

For the Workers Education Bureau of America

IF AMERICANS could organize their economy on rational democratic lines they would be faced with a most pleasant dilemma.

The productivity of labor is rising steadily. The gradual reduction of the work week is not out of question, and even the work force needed to turn out a flood of goods is sure to decline in size.

A similar development is taking place in agriculture. During the war, agricultural production rose by one-third while the number of persons engaged in agriculture declined. Population is moving from the farm to the city. An immediate reduction of one to two million in the farm force is forecast and widespread use of an already practical cotton picker would disemploy millions more.

The traditional industries and trades that once accounted for the bulk of the working population are thus headed for a steady decline. The problem we shall face will be to find useful and satisfying work for those who can no longer expect to be gainfully employed in agriculture and manufacturing.

These people, their potential skills and knowledge, should be employed in providing services for the community. The services thus provided are needed to enrich the community, enhance its standard of living, and provide useful outlets for large numbers of people.

The possibilities of expansion in this field are unlimited. Even without increased leisure we need increased and improved community service. As we win more leisure we shall need more and more activities and facilities.

We need expanded health facilities, educational opportunities, recreation, preschool care of children and a host of other community services.

This rational solution to the dilemma that

will soon face us is the only alternative to enormous technological unemployment and a deep depression.

In the past the persons displaced by improved technology have been absorbed by expanding frontiers and new markets. In our shrunken world these frontiers must become internal. We must continue expanding the volume and type of goods and services we make available to our people.

Who will pay for all this?

If we can produce all the goods we need to satisfy our needs, plus enough services to keep us all happy, secure and occupied either in using or providing these services, then we can easily pay for it with our labor and national resources. All it takes is proper planning and policies on profits, prices, wages, taxation, and other fiscal matters.

Unfortunately this pleasant prospect depends on several factors that are not now present in our national life.

The first of these is a determination to solve our problems rationally; not to allow the blind forces of boom and bust to disrupt our lives.

Such a rational attitude is characterized by an unwillingness to allow technological unemployment to remove millions of men and women from an opportunity to play useful roles in our society when the needs of that society remain great.

The second requirement is planning and foresight. We have to know, in a general way, about how many people will be available for the new service occupations. Then we have to plan facilities with which they can work and provide them with the skills, training and experience they need.

A bare beginning was made with the passage of the much weakened full employment bill by the last session of Congress.

Some of the planning we need is indicated

by the following community needs we must anticipate:

For recreation: bowling alleys, golf courses, swimming pools, libraries, theaters, parks, community centers, roller skating rinks, auditoriums, gymnasiums, baseball diamonds, and all kinds of personnel to operate them. These benefit the whole community.

For health: hospitals, clinics, doctors, dentists, nurses, technicians, laboratories, optical centers, none of which are now available in sufficient numbers to meet our national needs. These benefit the whole community.

For education: provision of a college education for every young person able to absorb it, greatly increased number of teachers and school buildings so that class sizes may be cut drastically, enlarged facili-

ties for technical training, advanced training on a professional level for all who can qualify, adult education centers, teachers and administrators. These benefit the whole community.

For preschool child care: nursery schools, play schools and kindergartens, and adequate trained personnel to operate them.

The abundant human and natural resources in our land would provide for these community needs and more. All that is needed is the will and recognition to meet the need.

We shall either have to find the ways of getting them to our people or fall again into the depths of depression, out of which we may never again emerge as a free and democratic people. Our choice must be to shape new frontiers in adapting our economy to the better way of life.

Employers "Unions" Increase Their Power

There is a mass cry these days about workers' organizations having too much power—or so some of the representatives in Congress and the state legislatures would have us believe.

But all the while, employers' groups are solidifying their ranks to combat labor—in essence, employer unions attempting to steal a page out of the book of labor unions. Of course, employers "unions" are old stuff from the National Association of Manufacturers right down the line to the employer groups formed within cities.

With the employers' organizations, which are select groups of industries for the purpose of industry-wide collective bargaining in a locality, labor unions have no bone to pick.

Organized as such for honest collective

bargaining such groups can be an asset to the community in working out contracts with unions for their own industry.

On the other hand, groups organized for the sole purpose of applying a club to labor unions, as has been the case many times in the past, can become just as dangerous to the economy and the good of the nation as a Communist-dominated union might conceivably be.

If such employer organization tactics come to the fore again such as was the case in the early 30s and late 20s, only turmoil can result.

A resurgent labor will never stand for losing hard-won gains.

And labor always does resurge in the American democracy.

—*The Duluth Labor World.*

VIOLATIONS OF CHILD LABOR LAWS INCREASE

Illegal employment of children in industry increased in the fiscal year 1946 over 1941, the Children's Bureau announced in its annual report.

There was an increase of 323 per cent in the number of plants employing under-age minors, and a rise of 441 per cent in the

number of minors unlawfully employed, the bureau found in spot inspections. In criminal proceedings pushed by the bureau for violation of child labor provisions of the wage-hour law during the year, fines have been levied in 20 states. One employer was fined a record \$25,000.—*Federated Press.*

Religion-Labor Program Outlined

Conference Supports Progressive Legislation

FORMATION of church-labor groups in all the communities of the South was urged by the National Religion and Labor Foundation at a recent conference in Atlanta.

Because Negroes were represented at the meeting, it was impossible for the foundation to meet in any white hotel or church. None of them dared to open its doors to the gathering, according to the bulletin of the foundation. So the meeting was held in a colored Y. M. C. A., attended by prominent

clergymen, labor officials and citizens interested in the unfortunate victims of southern prejudice, both white and black.

The Teamsters' Union was represented at the conference by international representatives who pledged the support of their organization in bringing more humanity and brotherhood into industrial relations in the South.

The recommendations of the conference to both labor and religious groups follow:

Historically, both the church and the labor movement have come into being in working class communities, and in general, movements of reform and revolution, which have led to the betterment of the common man's lot, have arisen from the least recognized of our society.

Yet today we find that churches have strayed from their prophetic origins to become stratified and lethargic, and in places the labor movement has become institutionalized and conservative.

God, being the respecter of no person or movement, is the judge of all and judgment is determined, in part, by how a movement or a person meets the problem of evil, race discrimination, economic injustice, mass exploitation, human wickedness.

Today, these problems, if America is to remain democratic, must be met by both the labor movement and the churches acting together to establish more Godly communities in America.

Therefore, to the ministers, priests and rabbis of the South we say: It is your duty to build churches and synagogues whose doors are open to all races and classes.

It is your duty to educate your members concerning the social pronouncements of the church and concerning the specific means by which all men can better their economic condition.

You should become intimately acquainted

with all members of your community and you should stand as men of righteousness—tolerant, but firm in your convictions.

Always, in peace or in crisis, you must not only serve as a mediator between the rival factions, but also as a stern prophet rebuking unrighteousness and upholding justice wherever they may be found, denouncing the sins of both greedy capital and labor.

As you have joined the local service club to become acquainted with the town fathers and leading business men, you must also become an integral part of the labor movement as a chaplain of a local, a trade union member or by some other method.

To the labor leaders of the South we say: It is your duty to educate the laity and clergy of the South about the aims and the methods of the trade union movement.

It is also your duty, as a believer, to become an active member of some synagogue or church in your community.

Thereby you can be an effective participant in the united effort to make the church live up to its word.

And finally, to both the ministers and labor leaders of the South we say: It is your duty to form in every major city and hamlet in America church-labor groups started with the initial purpose of creating a spirit of God-like fellowship between clergymen and labor leaders, and directed

toward specific action projects for the betterment of community life in America.

Aim at the beginning toward an inter-union, an inter-racial, and an inter-faith fellowship, with members eating, talking, acting and praying together.

Progress toward this end may be slow, but remember that common hunger both physical and spiritual—of the stomach and of the soul—speaks a common language.

Beware of neglecting your brothers and sisters of the rural South—those small farmers, share croppers, tenant farmers, day laborers and migrants who are still the disfranchised majority of the South, handicapped by lack of educational opportunity, poverty and disunity.

Your aim should be to create an understanding between the farm worker and the urban laborer, to name the organization which, under the disguise of being a people's organization, collaborates with the malefactors of great wealth both at home and in Washington, and to herald the organizations which are bringing a measure of freedom to those who labor on the land, in the shed and in the cannery.

To an astounding degree the economic ownership and control of the South is concentrated in a small number of billion-dollar corporations which in turn, through interlocking directorates, are largely controlled by a handful of American families.

To a disturbing and intolerable degree the wealth produced by the workers and farmers of the South has left the South to enlarge the already superabundant coffers of the few monopolistic corporations and dominant families.

We have no desire for a return to a feudal system of human slavery. We want a truly and fully democratic South, controlled by all its people in the interest of all its people.

We know that we cannot make the significant strides that are needed until we break more completely with the feudal patterns which separate the common people and deny that unity and brotherhood which

they must have for a victory in a common struggle.

1. Organize the common people. Workers into trade unions, farmers into progressive farmer unions, consumers into consumers' leagues and cooperatives, etc. Maintain the threatened right and power of organized labor, including the right to bargain on an industry-wide basis—so important to elimination of present wage rate differentials (including racial differentials). A strong, intelligent labor movement is our greatest hope for democracy and security.

2. Political education and action. The people must be informed of the facts and must all take political action as citizens, based on these facts. This necessitates universal suffrage and an end to all undemocratic voting restrictions, as the poll tax, the white primary, etc.

3. Defeat the Bulwinkle Bill and continue the fight for full equalization of freight rates.

4. Stimulate home-owned industries, using such methods as the separation tax, the taxation of outgoing wealth, etc.

5. Expand federal aid to southern states on the basis of need. Support the National Health Act, the Federal Aid to Education Bill, expansion of Social Security, and the inclusion of groups now excluded (as domestic and agricultural workers), the continuance and expansion of federal aid to southern farmers through long-term, low-interest loans, etc., and of federal aid to highways.

6. More TVA's.

7. Regional planning on behalf of southern resources and development.

8. Strengthen the Anti-trust Act.

9. Dispose of war surplus on a preferential basis to the advantage of southern communities and home owned industry.

10. Continue and extend the reciprocal trade program.

We call on religious individuals and organizations to work with labor and other progressive groups for this program.

What does labor want? The answer is simple: a square deal.—Duluth Labor World.

Union Label is Symbol of Freedom

Proves That Product Was Not Made in Sweatshop

By RICHARD McCANN

President, Local No. 802, American Federation of Musicians

IN THESE days when big business is out to crush democratic trade unionism in America, in the name of free enterprise, the labor movement must be ever watchful and alert. But beyond that, American trade unions must not, because of the drive against their very existence, be paralyzed into a state of inactivity.

The leadership of the American Federation of Labor and the American Federation of Musicians, fortunately, has been active and effective in the struggle to preserve the hard won gains of free trade unionism.

One of the most notable achievements of the American Federation of Labor has been its popularization of the union label on the products manufactured or distributed by its members. To us of the labor movement, the union label is a symbol, an eloquent testimonial to the fact that American labor enjoys a status, despite our powerful and unscrupulous enemies, second to none in the world.

The union label is the insignia on the shield of democratic trade unionism. It is proof that labor is not a commodity to be bought, sold, bartered or exploited. It is the guarantee that human rights and human dignities have been protected from exploitation and industrial oppression.

A union label on a product you buy means that it was manufactured in a plant where working conditions are more than just tolerable and wages just above the starvation level. A union label means that the many who made that article of commerce are not victims of sweatshop dictatorship.

A union label signifies that the worker is a man whose craftsmanship meets efficient standards.

That is why the American Federation of Labor has made the union label one of the keystones in its historic structure. And that is why we of the Musicians' Union whole-

heartedly and enthusiastically support the union label program of the AFL and that is why our executive board urges the members of our local union to buy union label goods and patronize union services.

The emblem of democratic trade unionism is the label and the assurance that when you buy a product you are buying not merely an ordinary piece of merchandise, but a product that was made with the hands of free men and women.

In the labor movement, the gains which have been made are not merely restricted to labor union membership. When labor fought for the eight-hour day, labor was also fighting for the unorganized workers as well. When labor fought for social security, it fought a battle for all working people. When labor fought for unemployment insurance, for a wage and hour law, it was a crusade for all working people.

Trade unionism, unlike big business monopoly, is not something whose benefits are restricted to a favored few. Trade unionism is the bulwark against entrenched privilege of the profit seekers and promoters who value property rights above human rights, who forget what Abraham Lincoln once said:

"Whenever there is a conflict between human rights and property rights, human rights must prevail."

A union label is the symbol of human rights and the fact that human rights have prevailed over property rights. It is the negation of the monopolist's attempt to take away from a working man what is his rightful due for himself and his family. It is the affirmation of the right that a free man has to enjoy without trespass a decent wage and the respect due him as a free man.

That is why, to us of the labor movement, the union label is more than just bread and

butter. The union label is the go-ahead signal to you, the certainty that wherever you see it—on a hat, on a dress, on a pack

of cigarettes—you may know that free Americans are contributing their part to ensure that our country will remain free.

Teamsters Assist Cancer Drive

Milk Unions Will Distribute Campaign Literature

TO HELP save the lives of 17 million Americans doomed to die of cancer, the Teamsters' Union is cooperating with the American Cancer Society to raise \$12 million in April.

The money will be spent for research, service and education.

The indorsement of the International was asked for the campaign by Lawton B. Wolfe of New York, association national director. He said that milk companies had agreed to place a special collar around each bottle delivered provided the unions agreed.

He wrote the International asking for such approval, which was given, with the suggestion that the cancer society contact each local milk drivers' union in the areas where distribution is desired.

Pamphlets explaining the need for the money and soliciting contributions will be distributed with the milk bottles.

"The cancer facts are appalling," Mr. Lawton said in his appeal to the International. "More than a million and a half members of organized labor will die of this dread disease unless something is done about it.

"The campaign to raise this money is designed to reach every segment of our community life, not only for the purpose of fund raising but to educate the people to the danger signals of cancer.

"The Teamsters' Union has always been in the forefront of public service campaigns. It was our thought that those members of the Teamsters' Union who are engaged in the delivery of milk might lend considerable help in this April campaign without too great an effort on their part."

Mr. Lawton enclosed copies of the pamphlet to be distributed which contains some startling facts on the prevalence of cancer. It states that one-third of the cancer toll

could be eliminated if the disease was caught in its early stages.

It is imperative, therefore, that people be advised of the symptoms and seek medical advice at the first suspicious sign.

At present cancer kills an American every three minutes and the death rate is constantly increasing. It is the "greatest and cruelest killer of women" and the second greatest killer of men, according to the American Cancer Society.

The society points out graphically that during the recent war the United States spent \$317 billion and lost 280,000 lives combatting the Germans and Japs.

During the same period only two million were spent in combatting cancer and 607,000 lives were lost.

At the existing casualty rate from cancer, 17 million Americans now living are doomed to die.

Among the symptoms the society lists as signs of danger are:

1. Any sore that does not heal, particularly about the tongue, mouth or lips.
2. A painless lump or thickening, especially in the breast, lip or tongue.
3. Irregular bleeding from any of the body openings.
4. Progressive change in the color or size of a wart or mole.
5. Persistent indigestion.
6. Persistent hoarseness, unexplained cough or difficulty in swallowing.
7. Any change in normal bowel habits.

The Teamsters' Union is glad to give any help possible in conquering cancer or in reducing its terrible toll. It is certain that all local unions will cooperate with the American Cancer Society in getting this vital message to the people and in raising funds needed to save lives.

Proceedings of Executive Board

(Continued from Last Month)

Gene Bailey of Local No. 549, Kingsport, Tenn., appeared in connection with the appeal of 13 members of that local. The statement of appeal and letters by the various appellants were presented and the record of hearing was presented and fully considered.

It was voted unanimously by the board that the decision of Local No. 549 in respect to Appellants Howard Blevins, Earl Broten, Joe W. Davis, Preston Booher, Joseph Warren, C. K. Hayworth, C. P. Whitaker, Grady Hubbard, Willie Dodson and Joe Booher be sustained and their appeals denied.

The decision of Local No. 549 in respect to Appellants Joe Thomas, Hyder Chapman and Jack Davis was sustained and the appeal denied. Local No. 549 was justified in its decision and the general executive board makes no criticism of the local union either in respect to its findings or decision and holds that the offense warrants a substantial penalty.

However, the general executive board is of the opinion that the penalty ought to be modified in view of their expressions of repentance; therefore, the penalty imposed was modified to provide that the period of suspension shall be for one year from the original date of suspension; that thereafter, the said appellants shall be upon probation for a period of two additional years, during which time Joe Thomas, Hyder Chapman and Jack Davis shall not be permitted to attend union meetings nor hold office.

In respect to Appellants John A. Horne, William Aaron Clark, W. A. Clark, James M. Tipton and Arthur Treadway, the record of the hearing warrants sustaining the decision of the local union and the penalty imposed. However, the board decided that those men be given a further hearing and that due notice of hearing be given appellants.

A motion was unanimously adopted approving the acts of the general president and

his assistant in the brewery and other matters handled by the general president's office and instructing and empowering the general president to continue financial aid in these matters as long as the general president deems it advisable.

Brothers Joseph Quillin and George Hase-nauer of Local No. 843, Newark, N. J., appeared before the board. There was some slight question of jurisdiction between Local No. 843 and Local No. 153. Both men made conservative and informative statements to the board. The board decided to refer the matter back to those locals to have them get together and endeavor to reach an agreement and upon failure to do so, the action taken in the previous board meeting would prevail, which action in substance was that Vice President Michael J. Cashal make a decision on the disputed point and the decision would be binding on both sides.

The board considered the dispute between Local No. 177 of Newark and Local No. 804 of New York City. A motion was made and unanimously adopted which instructed Vice President Cashal and Dave Kaplan to call a meeting immediately of the local unions involved in the jurisdictional dispute to endeavor to reach an agreement, in accordance with the clearly stated language of the constitution dealing with jurisdiction.

In the event the parties fail to reach an agreement within 90 days, the matter shall be referred back to the general executive board for decision without further hearing. It was further decided that any men transferred from one union to another as a result of agreement or decision shall not in any way suffer any reduction in wages during the life of the contract under which they are now working.

President Tobin requested Dave Kaplan to arrange for a meeting in a suitable location and he requested Vice President Cashal and Vice President Conlin to render whatever assistance they could towards bringing about a better understanding between those local unions.

Representatives of Local No. 194, Newark, N. J., appeared in opposition to the granting of a miscellaneous charter in the Trenton area. The board took no action in view of the fact that no such application had been made to the International office.

In the appeal of D. E. Cosmah from the decision of the general president expelling him after he had been given a trial, in accordance with the constitution, it was decided that the case be referred back to the special representative of the general president for further hearing and that at least ten days' notice be given and that the original charges be amended to include additional wrongful conduct and that the appellant be given full opportunity to defend himself. Pending the final hearing, the decision of the board in this case of expulsion shall stand.

A motion was made and carried that the executive officers of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters be empowered to contribute what they consider a reasonable sum to any worthy cause which may be approved by the American Federation of Labor and in general, in accordance with their own judgment, in extreme cases which may obtain from time to time between board sessions.

Representatives appeared before the board from New Jersey Locals Nos. 560, 641, 617, 478, 863, 37, and 469, protesting against the infringement of those locals by the membership of Local No. 807 of New York City. Local No. 807 was represented by Thomas Hickey, John Strong and John Flaherty. The complaint was purely a jurisdictional matter between the New York local and the New Jersey locals.

The board heard the evidence and statements of all parties and appointed Michael J. Cashal and Dave Kaplan, upon their return to New York and as soon thereafter as possible, to call the parties involved together and endeavor to make a settlement, and failing to have the parties agree, to have the arbiters make a decision, basing said decision on the constitution. Mr. Cashal and Mr. Kaplan are to report their proceedings to the next meeting of the board.

Representatives of Local No. 478 of

Newark requested removal of the supervisorship from the local union. The general president stated that it was necessary to appoint a supervisor over that union some years ago. He reported that the local union had carefully observed the International constitution and all orders and directions issued by the International Union. It was moved and carried unanimously that the request of the local union for the removal of the supervisorship be granted. The supervisor was, therefore, removed.

Local No. 478 also requested the extension of their jurisdiction to include Union County, New Jersey. The board held that this matter was not properly before the board at this time; that the matter should be brought to the joint council, subject to further consideration by the general executive board.

Jurisdictional disputes between Newark Local No. 680 and Camden Local No. 676 and Philadelphia Local No. 463 were referred to Vice President Crumback with instructions that he call the parties together and endeavor to bring about an understanding or settlement. Representatives of those locals appeared before the board and presented their case.

In the appeal of Kenneth Agne from the decision of Local No. 693, Binghamton, N. Y., no one appeared before the board. There were, however, written statements presented. The board was given further details by Thomas E. Flynn, assistant to the general president. After hearing the letters read and discussing the case, the board decided to sustain the decision of Local No. 693 and the appeal was denied.

A committee representing the Maritime Trades Council appeared for the purpose of asking the Teamsters to become part of the Maritime Trades Council, a newly formed organization approved by the last convention of the American Federation of Labor. Those present made their statements and it was clearly brought out that the creation of this organization was a necessity in order that the American Federation of Labor unions may have a department which would help in every way to protect those maritime unions.

The board discussed the matter fully and it was decided that an investigation of this department be made and all the information possible be obtained as to the responsibilities and liabilities of any union in affiliation. The board believed that the subject matter was of such an important nature that it had to be gone over carefully by the International Union, especially insofar as to how it might involve our membership hauling to or from the waterfront in connection with our contracts with our employers and that, after the investigation, the matter be reported to the convention of the International, which will be held in San Francisco in August of this year.

Representatives in behalf of Local No. 191 of Bridgeport, Conn., appeared on the appeal from the decision of Joint Council No. 64 of Brother Salvatore Giasulo. Representatives of the joint council also appeared and gave their reasons for the action of the joint council. Mr. Allen, representing the local union, stated that Giasulo's recent conduct since his reinstatement has been that of a trade unionist.

The board voted unanimously to sustain the decision of the joint council and to deny the appeal. The board further decided that the decision of the joint council be modified to the extent that Giasulo shall be on probation for one year from date hereof and shall be prohibited from attending union meetings during such period.

The board unanimously commended the executive officers and organizers of our International Union for the manner in which they handled the general strike in Oakland and all other acts surrounding such a situation.

John O'Rourke, representative of Local No. 282, New York City, appeared and explained the entire situation surrounding the trouble in New York during the strike in which Locals No. 282, 807 and several others were involved. Brother O'Rourke made certain requests. The board fully discussed the situation and in view of the fact that the constitution of the International Union must be observed by the general executive board, it was found impossible to grant the request of Brother O'Rourke.

By unanimous action the board decided that all unions bringing about unauthorized strikes be censured and condemned and if necessary that the officers be removed if it was found that they were negligent in their duties or unable to control their membership and furthermore, if necessary in order to maintain contracts and carry out agreements, that the executive officers take up the question of suspension of unions violating contracts and agreements.

Secretary-Treasurer George Meany of the American Federation of Labor appeared on certain matters dealing with the federation and the International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

General Organizer Nicholas P. Morrissey submitted a report on the situation in Pittsburgh, which was read by Mr. Flynn. The report stated that general cooperation amongst the Teamsters had been decided upon at a recent conference by the representatives of all local unions in Pennsylvania and that the dispute which was forced on the Teamsters by the Brewery Workers in Pittsburgh should be carried out to the end in order that the just rights of the membership of the Teamsters' Union be protected and preserved.

Vice President Crumback reported that a signed union shop agreement with all master breweries in and around Philadelphia was now prevailing and that all employees on the brewery payroll, inside and outside, had become members of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters and that all concerned were highly pleased with the unity and harmony that now prevails between our membership, our locals and employers.

General Organizer Henry Burger of Chicago made a report of the wonderful progress we have made in recent years in the city of Chicago, that unity and good will prevailed everywhere and that out of our 75,000 members affiliated with the Chicago joint council we had signed contracts covering all that membership and not one man is on strike.

He reported also on the splendid agreement which had recently been obtained with the aid of our Washington office for Local No. 705 of Chicago.

The president of the Chicago Federation of Labor, William Lee, who is also an International trustee of our brotherhood, and one of the officers of Local No. 734, Bakery Drivers of Chicago, made a statement which was helpful, encouraging and enlightening. He spoke about the duties of his new office, but said that he accepted the position with the distinct understanding that he could not take away any of his services from his own local union, of which he had been one of the leading officers for so many years.

He stated the Teamster movement in Chicago was of great aid and assistance to the Chicago Federation of Labor and that he would do everything he could to fulfill the duties of his new office, always remembering that his affiliation with the Brotherhood of Teamsters comes first.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

"WHEREAS, It has been brought to the attention of the general executive board that a few local unions have called strikes in violation of the International Constitution, and

"WHEREAS, Such strikes have involved other sister local unions with substantial loss in employment and earnings of their memberships and at great loss to the treasuries of such sister local unions not directly involved in the strike, and

"WHEREAS, Restrictive antilabor laws have resulted and may further result from the calling of strikes to the detriment of labor generally; now therefore,

"BE IT RESOLVED, That the general executive board censures the calling of strikes in violation of the International constitution and particularly ARTICLE XII thereof, and

"LET IT BE KNOWN, That this International Union will not tolerate violation of its constitution which this board and the entire membership have sworn to uphold. Local unions and their officers responsible for such violations will be disciplined accordingly, even to the extent of suspension from the International Union."

The general president closed the meeting by expressing his appreciation to the members of the board for their attention and helpfulness and the serious thought they had given to the many important problems that had been presented. It might be stated

here that there were many matters discussed which were purely organizational matters—going over our work in the past, laying our plans for the future, explaining the danger confronting the labor movement, in spite of which, of course, the labor movement will survive.

The general president explained the necessity of unity and cooperation amongst our own unions and he explained the danger of petty jealousies which might arise between local union officials, especially now that so many new members were in our unions.

He asked for the assistance of the board members when they returned home in helping to expedite the great work in preparing for our next convention, in San Francisco. It is contemplated at this time that with our enormous membership that there will perhaps be 3,000 delegates and visitors at that convention, undoubtedly the largest convention that was ever held by a labor union in this country.

It should be also understood that the International Brotherhood of Teamsters must realize that with the increased membership come increased responsibilities. Joint councils should meet together, making their own arrangements for transportation to and from the convention. It is expected that we shall be able to issue our credentials some time around the end of May so that elections can take place in June and that the credentials be returned as soon as possible. Special elections should be held and only those should be permitted to run for the office of delegate who would be entitled to run for office under the laws laid down in the International constitution.

The general president stated that the next board meeting will be called at such time as he deems it necessary, depending upon the importance of the matters that will accumulate between now and the coming convention; that it was possible a board meeting may be necessary the week before the convention and the members should hold themselves in readiness.

Respectfully submitted,

DANIEL J. TOBIN,
General President.

Foreign Labor Seeks U.S. Jobs

STRONG opposition to the importation of foreign farm labor was voiced by union spokesmen last month before the Senate agriculture committee considering Senate Bill No. 724.

This bill would suspend for another year the immigration laws pertaining to such labor. It is another phase of the campaign to open the United States to the hordes of refugees seeking access from abroad on one pretext or another.

Testimony of union representatives before the Senate committee frankly branded S. B. No. 724 as a piece of legislation to obtain cheap labor for farm corporations.

Small farmers would not benefit from the measure at all. In fact, it would injure them by permitting their large competitors to obtain cheaper labor.

But the little farmers would help pay the cost of bringing in the foreign workers through taxation. The imported labor program would cost the government \$200 per worker, which, of course, would be paid out of general taxation.

Thus the federal government would pay millions of dollars to import workers to decrease American wage scales and take jobs from American workers.

That is what immigration will do, not only in agriculture but in every other employment. That is why the Teamsters' Union opposes any relaxation of the immigration laws.

That is why this union advocates even more stringent restrictions on immigration.

Most economists agree that a recession is coming. Some predict it this year, others next year.

A recession means unemployment. How much or how long, is anybody's guess. The economists are confident we can snap out of it quickly.

But we won't snap out of it quickly if we have in the meantime suspended our immigration laws to permit hundreds of thousands of displaced persons from Europe and Asia to glut our labor market.

Every foreign worker admitted to the United States under existing conditions is a threat to an American worker. If enough of them are admitted, they will be a threat to all American workers because they will work longer for less money.

The story came out in the farm labor program, adopted originally as an emergency war measure. Now the big farm employers want to continue it for a year. Then they will want it for another year and so on until the bars have finally been raised to allow unlimited cheap farm labor. Then other industries will want to cut in on the profits of foreign labor and bills will be presented to admit "a few" foreigners to work in the factories.

Once this program gets under way the displaced persons will be the American workers who lost their jobs to the immigrants.

The only way to stop it is to kill S. B. No. 724 and every other bill to weaken the immigration laws.

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